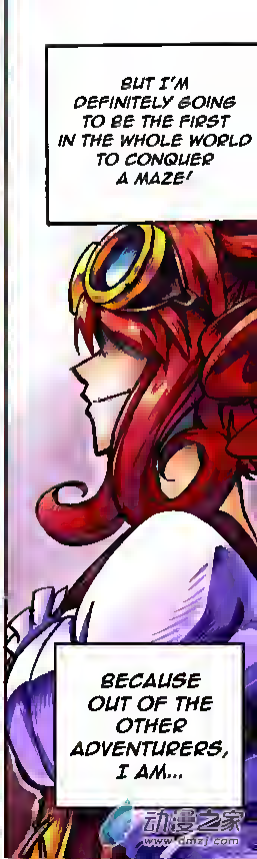
LABYRNITH.
WE DON'T KNOW WHEN OR WHY THEY APPEARED THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, CREATING A DESPERATE SITUATION.
IT IS SAID, IN THE CENTER OF A MAZE LIES A TROVE OF PRICELESS METALS,
POSESSING EXTRAORDINARY STRENGTH AND POWER,
WHICH CAN EVEN MAKE A PERSON'S WILDEST DREAMS COME TRUE
THE LABYRINTH HAS A VARIETY OF DANGERS, MANKIND HAS NEVER FOUND A WAY TO SET FOOT INSIDE
BUT IN WAKE OF THE STEAM AGE, MANKIND MADE MANY ADVANCES IN SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY,
MAKING ROBOTS OF ALL KINDS TO HELP THEM GET RID OF ANY OBSTACLES IN THEIR WAY
CONQUERING MAZES INSTANTLY BECAME ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR THRILLS!



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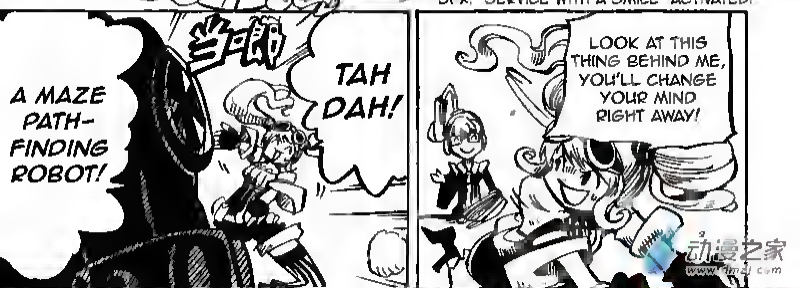
IN ORDER TO BECOME A MAZE ADVENTURER, PEOPLE SAY YOU NEED TO...
WORLD'S FIRST MAZE ADVENTURER ASSOCIATION
AOLIN PISI
NAME: AILI AIDINI
艾丽·艾迪妮
HA?
FIFTH GRADE ISN'T HIGH ENOUGH.
NAME: ROBOT OFFICIAL
UH, I'M JUST SAYING...
AILI AIDINI JOINED AOLIN PISI TWO YEARS AGO.
MISS, PLEASE LOOK AT YOUR DATA!
DO YOU REQUIRE ANOTHER RUN THROUGH?
WAIT A SEC! WHAT'RE YOU SAYING?!
THE NUMBER OF MAZES YOU HAVE COMPLETED
公务机器人

SFX: COUGH!!

YOUR DEPARTURE WILL BE FINALIZED AND MADE KNOWN TO THE OTHER DEPARTMENTS
HOLD ON!
笑
I HAVE NO SAY IN THIS MATTER?
TOO BAD.
OF COURSE NOT!
WANNA GIVE UP YET?
微笑服务装置启动中!

SFX: "SERVICE WITH A SMILE" ACTIVATED!



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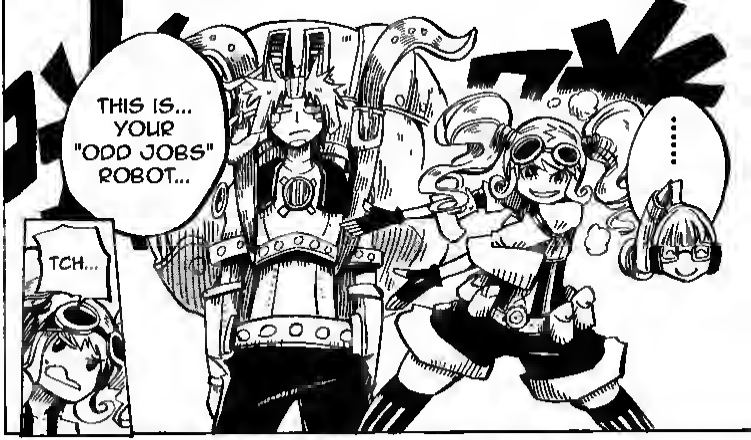
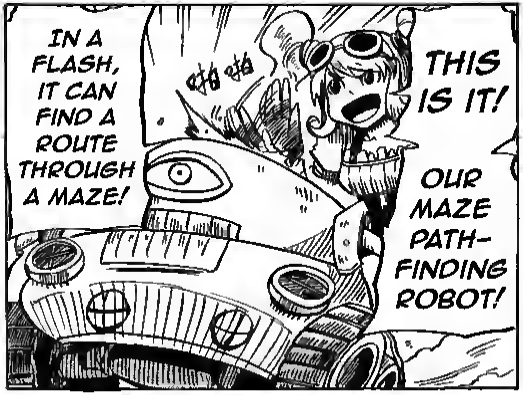


SFX: TRUMPET



SFX: SLAP SLAP

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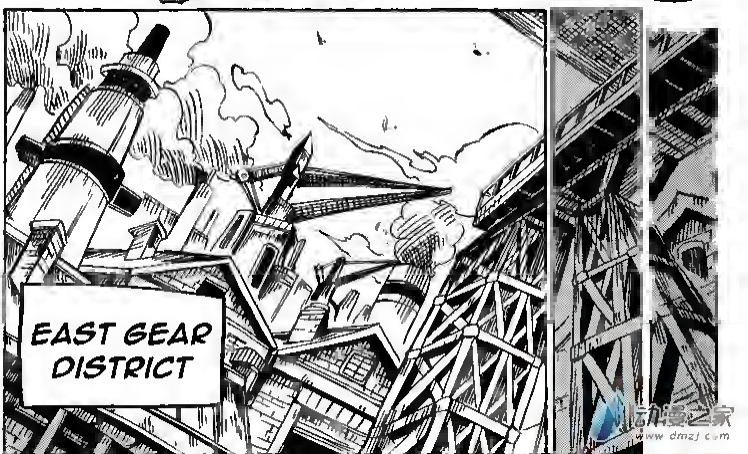
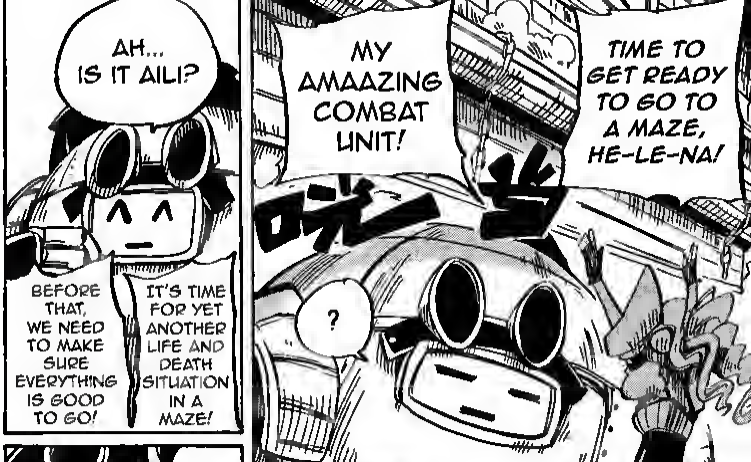
Please.. I really don't want ta give up!
You wauldn't let such a cute and sweet maiden...
With such tearful eyes begging yau...
HAIR GLUED TO EYELID
SPIT APPLIED TO EYE
FACE ANALYSIS INSTALL ACTIVATED,
YOUR FACIAL EXPRESSION INDICATES AN 80% CHANCE OF GETTING HIT SOON
Robot Official
Come help me beg!
!
I'M BEGGING YOU!
呵呵
90%!!!
I CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE!
SFX: FRUSTRATION
HUH?!
呼
THIS IS...
MATTER OF FACT, YOU STILL HAVE A CHANCE!
SEE, JUST SAYING THAT GOT YOU ALL WORKED UP

THIS IS THE VERY LAST CHANCE I CAN GIVE YOU.
MAZE INTEL?

I'LL GO CHECK THIS MAZE OUT!
SO YOU'RE SAYING I CAN EITHER TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT...
SFX: DING
IF YOU CONQUER THIS MAZE WITHIN A MONTH,
THEN YOU WILL HAVE PROVEN YOURSELF!
SFX: SCRUNCH!


EAST GEAR DISTRICT

THIS TIME WE'LL BE ABSOLUTELY PREPARED!!
WE MUST CONQUER AND EXPLORE THAT MAZE!
WE CAN'T POSSIBLY GIVE UP NOW!
PREPAR-ED?
咚!!
SFX: BANG!
ODD JOBS ROBOT
TAZ
DOES THIS MEAN I'LL BE HAVING A HEARTY HELPING OF FUEL?
SFX: COUGH
OF COURSE, IT'S IMPORTANT TO ENSURE THAT SHE'S WELL PREPARED!
HNG
YOU'RE TALKING NONESENSE, AS WE'VE GOT A MAZE TO GO TO..


AH... IS IT AILI?
BEFORE THAT, WE NEED TO MAKE SURE EVERYTHING IS GOOD TO GO!
IT'S TIME FOR YET ANOTHER LIFE AND DEATH SITUATION IN A MAZE!
MY AMAAZING COMBAT UNIT!
TIME TO GET READY TO GO TO A MAZE, HE-LE-NA!
?
WHAT...
COMBAT UNIT
HELENA
SFX: CLANG

WH... WHAT IS IT? TAZ-BOT, WHAT DO YOU WANT TALK ABOUT?!
YOU KNOW...
'SUP, HELENA.
AH! TAZ-BOT! YOU CAME AS WELL?
SFX: SHOCK

WHAT DOES THAT MEAN...
AILI IS CALLING YOU A... COMBAT UNIT?

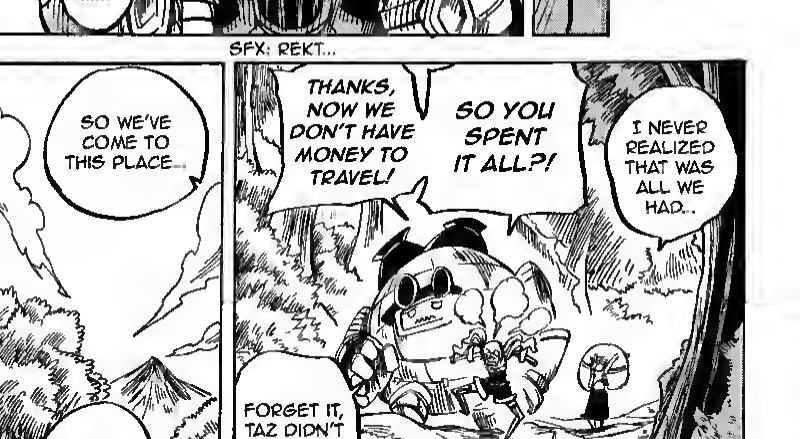
HAVEN'T I TOLD YOU THIS MANY TIMES BEFORE?!
AAHH, AILI!
SFX: CREAKING
TAZ-BOT YOU WENT LAST TIME, SO IT SHOULDN'T BE HARD TO UNDERSTAND
LISTEN WELL, TAZ-BOT!
WHAT WE CALL COMBAT UNITS, ARE THE ONES IN THE MIDDLE OF THE MAZE-
DON'T WASTE YOUR BREATH, HELENA...
THAT SORT NEVER LISTENS.
OI?! TA... TAZ-BOT!
SFX: HMPF
THINKING ABOUT IT, TAZ-BOT HAS BEEN IN RATHER LOW SPIRITS TODAY...
SFX: HISSSSS
HEJ, TAZ! WHAT'S UP WITH YOU TODAY?
YOU BOTHERED ASKING ME?
YOU FORGOT WHAT DAY TODAY WAS!
TODAY...

IT'S MY BIRTHDAY!
♫Happy birthday to you~ ♪
WHAT I WANT ISN'T THE BIRTH-DAY SONG!
IT'S BEEN EXACTLY ONE YEAR SINCE I WAS ACTIVATED,
SINCE THEN EVERY SINGLE DAY OF MY EXISTENCE HAS BEEN SPENT DOING MENIAL LABOUR,
THE POINT IS...
OVER THE COURSE OF A YEAR, YOU HAVE NEVER FED ME WELL!
咕—
SFX: WHEEZE-
SFX: FURIOUSLY SWEEPING, STOMACH GROWLING
I THOUGHT AT LEAST FOR TODAY, ON MY BIRTHDAY ...
ABUSE OF ROBOT LABOUR DOESN'T EVEN COME CLOSE TO DESCR -IBING IT!
WHAT'S EVEN WORSE IS THAT YOU INSTALLED A "CLEANER" MODULE!
I BEGAN CLEANING ALL THE TIME FOR NO REASON!

NO!
I'M BEING VERY REASO-NABLE HERE!
SO I SHOULD BUY YOU A BUNCH OF FUEL AS A BIRTHDAY MEAL?
SFX: MENACING
I'M SORRY, TAZ...
CHEER UP, TAZ-BOT!
SFX: HEE~
YOUR FACE IS GIVING YOU AWAY COMPLETELY!
I ALSO FEEL RATHER EMBARASSED ABOUT THIS, NEXT TIME I'LL MAKE IT UP TO YOU! (MAYBE...)
LOOKING AT THE MAZE MEANS UNDERWRITING OUR TRAVEL COSTS, SO WE HAVE TO BE CAREFUL WITH MONEY
FORGET IT... IT DOESN'T MATTER ANYMORE
TO BE HONEST, I'M PRETTY MUCH BROKE...

[TN: NOPE, HER NAME S AILI NOW.]

SFX: REKT...


SO WE'VE COME TO THIS PLACE...
MONEY!
FORGET IT, TAZ DIDN'T DO IT ON PURPOSE...
THANKS, NOW WE DON'T HAVE MONEY TO TRAVEL!
SO YOU SPENT IT ALL?!
I NEVER REALIZED THAT WAS ALL WE HAD...

?
ANYONE HAVE ANYTHING THEY'D LIKE TO SAY?
WE SHOULD USE OUR TIME HERE TO MAKE SOME MONEY.
BECAUSE WE OWE MONEY, NOBODY WANTS TO LEND TO US.

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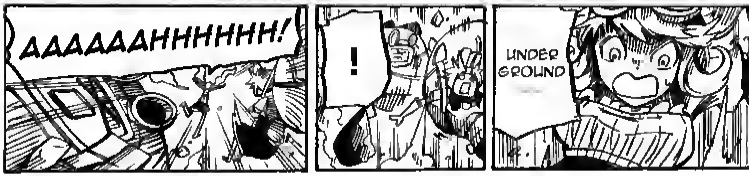
OLD INDUSTRIAL MOUNTAIN
THE MAZE'S MINERAL DEPOSIT!
ACCORDING TO THE INTEL WE RECEIVED EARLIER...
THIS PLACE IS CLOSE TO A MAZE!
MINERAL DEPOSIT?
WHAT KIND OF REACTION IS THAT...
GREAT! WOO! BUT I'M NOT SURE THAT I'M POWERFUL ENOUGH...
BUT THIS IS A RATHER LOW-LEVEL MAZE!
FINDING A MINERAL DEPOSIT WILL MAKE US A TON OF MONEY!
NOTHING COULD POSSIBLY GO WRONG!

THAT'S THE SECOND TREE I'VE SEEN HALFWAY UP THIS MOUNTAIN
WALK THIRTY STEPS WEST...
I FOUND SOME FROG -SHAPED ROCK...
THEN...
THE INTEL SAYS THIS IS THE WAY TO OPEN THE MAZE.
WHAT IS SHE UP TO?
29,
30!
THE ENTRANCE SHOULD APPEAR NOW!
!
隆隆隆……
咚
JUST GOT TO KICK IT A BIT!

SFX: TREMORS



SFX: ECHO...

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IS THIS REALLY A MAZE? IT'S PITCH BLACK IN HERE...
WHEN DID YOU INSTALL THAT IN ME?!
TURNS OUT THE TRAMPOLINE I INSTALLED FOR FUN CAME IN HANDY
HELENA, TURN ON THE LIGHTS!
SO THOSE THINGS ON YOUR HEAD WERE ACTUALLY EYES?!
2X EYE——LIGHT!
WUU WUU……
HEH HEH, I NEVER QUITE EXPECTED THIS!
WOAH!
DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH, TAZ-BOT!
!

当当
OF COURSE, THIS COULD ALL BE A TRICK TO TRY AND INTIMIDATE US.
THE STRUCTURE OF A HIGH-LEVEL MAZE IS EVEN MORE AWESOME!
OH?
TEXT TAZ, HELENA & AN IDIOT WERE HERE
泰兹、海伦娜和笨蛋到此一游。
WHAT ARE YOU WRITING?!
IF WE DON'T MARK OUR WAY, WE'LL GET LOST!
YOU BIG IDIOT!
PUT DOWN YOUR BAG!
扯
呀

SFX: DING-A-LING

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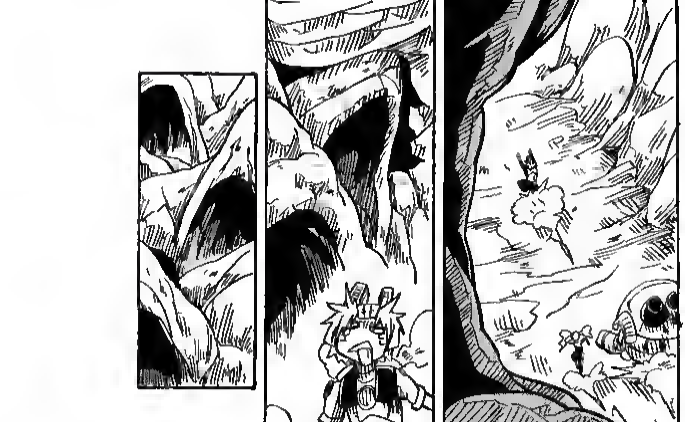
IT'S NO WONDER WE HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO COMPLETE ANY MAZES IN 2 YEARS
AILI
石平哈当啷
WHYYYYYY?!
ANOTHER 3 HOURS LATER
.....
HOWEVER, AILI'S SKILL ISN'T PERFECT
BUT MOST OF THEM ALL MAKE ROBOTS TO HELP THEM
HOW DO OTHER PEOPLE DECIDE WHICH PATH TO TAKE?
EVERYONE HAS THEIR OWN WAY...
ARGH
石平!!
DAMN IT!
UH?

I SAY...
GOING OUT LIKE THIS... IT'S REALLY GONNA END!
WHAT AM I DOING...
WELL...
WHA?
WHY DID YOU SUDDENLY PUNCH ME IN THE GUT...
AIL!
?
ACTUALLY, THIS TIME...
MY FIST SHOULDN'T HAVE HURT YOU THAT BADLY!
HUH? WHAT'S WRONG?
TAZ-BOT!
OOH WAAAAAAAAAAGH!
OOPS, SORRY IT WASN'T ON PURPOSE!
UGH...

I ACCIDENTALLY SWITCHED ON THE CLEANING MODE...
CLEAN AND TIDY! STAGE ONE!
CLEANING! CLEAN!
ONCE YOU SWITCH IT ON, IT CAN'T BE TURNED OFF FOR A WHILE...
EH?
YOU STILL HAVEN'T TURNED IT OFF!
THIS TIME
TAZ?
?
.....
哒哒哒
哒哒
!

WHERE ARE YOU SUDDENLY RUNNING OF TO?!
I DON'T KNOW! MY BODY IS DOING THIS ON ITS OWN...
THERE'S NO USE LYING, STOP USING THIS AS AN EXCUSE!
SERIOUSLY! IT'S THE CLEANING INSTALL THAT'S MAKING ME RUN!
咚咚咚咚
EH?
MAYBE...
WHAT IS IT, AILI?
I CAN'T SAY FOR CERTAIN
I HAVE A GOOD FEELING ABOUT THIS!
AILI! WE'LL GET LOST IF WE RUN AROUND LIKE THIS!
NO WE WON'T!
TAZ! GO TO WHERE THE CLEANING INSTALL IS TELLING YOU TO RUN!
HA?



!

WHAT IS IT DOING NOW?!
.....
IT STOPPED...
THIS PLACE IS...

TAZ!
WHAT'S GOING ON RIGHT NOW? CAN IT BE THAT TOIL AND LABOR IS MY DESTINY?!
CLEANING ?!
东扫
西扫
EHH?
TURN YER LIGHTS TO MAX!
WELL THEN, HELENA
SO IT'S HERE?
!
噌!!!
MY EYES HURT!

THEN IT'S HERE!
HA? WHAT D'YOU MEAN?!
THERE'S A STONE PILLAR!
!
WHAT SORT OF PLACE IS THIS...
THIS LITTLE CHUNK CAN SMELT HALF A TON!
THE MAZE IS WHERE YOU CAN FIND A LOT OF IT,
YOU CAN USE THIS TO SMELT ORE!
IS THAT RIGHT?
?
IT'S WORTH LOTS OF MONEY!
SO RAW FUEL IS EXTREMELY USEFUL, IN OTHER WORDS...
IN THIS AGE OF STEAM, FUEL IS AT THE HEART OF ALL THINGS!
IT'S RAW FUEL!
SLOW DOWN, WHY ARE YOU SO HAPPY OVER A PILLAR?
TAZ, YOU'RE SO HANDY! I LOVE YOU TO DEATH!
IT'S NOT JUST ANY PILLAR...
SO THAT'S WHAT IT WAS?!
RAW FUEL?

咔一咔光
THAT'S JUST WHAT WE WERE LOOKING FOR!
IS THAT WHY YOU TURNED IT ON TO BEGIN WITH?
SO YOU'RE SAYING THAT MY CLEANING INSTALL FOUND THIS PLACE?
OUR TRANSPORT COSTS ARE SETTLED!
.....
THIS HUNK OF RAW FUEL WILL SELL FOR A LOT!
OF COURSE, THERE'S ALSO THE QUESTION OF HOW TO GET BACK...
!
ANYHOW, RIGHT NOW...
AMAZINGLY, IT EXCEEDED EXPECTATIONS, SO NOW WE KNOW!
I HAD A HUNCH YOU WOULD LEAD US IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION
JUST A COINCIDENCE
AH
终啷
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BBB-
BEHIND
YOU!
CHEER UP
YOU GUYS...
THIS MIGHT
BE THE FIRST
MAZE THAT
WE CONQUER!
!!!
?
HUH?

?!
WHY WOULD THE MAZE HAVE STUFF LIKE THIS ?!
SOME KINDA MONSTER ?!
WHAT THE HELL IS THAT ?!

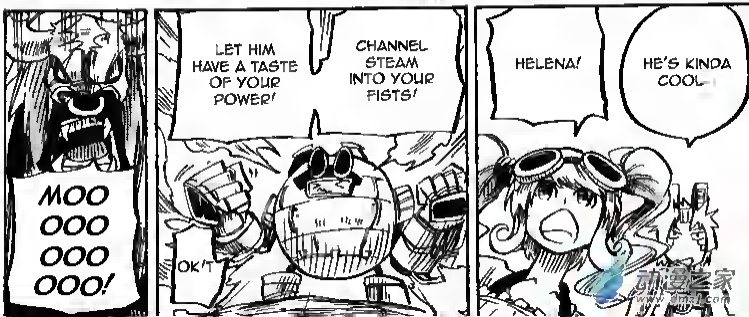
IT'S COMING THIS WAY!
AILI, HELENA, RUN!
轰隆隆
MOU AUAU AUAU AUAU!
!
呲呲
?!
AILI!
LUCKILY I ACTIVATED IT IN TIME!
AAAHHH, I GOT TOO CARRIED AWAY & WAS CARELESS
HELENA?!
!

哒丝 哒丝
蒸武装备
高压拳套
PRESSURIZED PUGILISM STEAM-POWERED EQUIPMENT
咔咔…
TO COME AFTER TAZ LIKE THAT
……
WWW WHAT EXACTLY IS GOING ON?
I WON'T FORGIVE YOU!

IT'S GOING TO BE THIS WAY!
OUR BIGGEST DIFFICULTY IN THIS MAZE ISN'T THE PATH AT ALL,
THIS IS THE VERY FIRST STEP!
I'VE GOTTA CONQUER THIS MAZE,
TALOS!
MAZE BEAST
AND THESE MACHINES WERE STEAM-POWERED COMBAT-TYPE ROBOTS
SO WE HAD TO RELY UPON THE POWER OF MACHINES!
THE STRENGTH OF HUMANS COULD NOT COMPETE WITH THEIRS
MUCH LIKE MAZES, THE MONSTERS THAT INHABIT THEM ARE MYSTERIOUS
FOR YEARS THEY HAVE GUARDED THE MAZE ORE, ATTACKING THOSE WHO COME FOR IT
表隆隆隆

武装机!!

COMBAT MODE!!


MOO OOO OOO OOO!
OK!
LET HIM HAVE A TASTE OF YOUR POWER!
CHANNEL STEAM INTO YOUR FISTS!
HELENA!
HE'S KINDA COOL!

HIGH PRES-SURE BASH!
……
AMAZING! KNOCKING DOWN SUCH A BIG GUY IN ONE BLOW!
OF COURSE! HELENA'S EQUIPMENT WAS ALL CREATED BY ME!
IN THAT RESPECT, I'M VERY CONFIDENT!
ALRIGHT! LET'S CONTINUE!
WE'LL SETTLE THIS IN NO TIME AT ALL!

HELENA?
AILI I'M
HIGH PRES-SURE BASH!
HUNGRY
燃料耗尽?
TEXT: OUT OF FUEL?
SAY THAT BEFORE
UNPROC-ESSED RAW FUEL IS NO DIFFERENT THAN FOSSILIZED POOP!
!!!
I MESSED UP!
I DIDN'T THINK THE STEAM FIST WOULD EAT UP FUEL SO QUICKLY!
WE CAN JUST EAT A BIT OF THE RAW FUEL AND IT'LL BE FINE

MOO!
空空空空
WHAT SHOULD WE DO NOW?!
DAMN IT! WE WERE SO CLOSE!
IF WE CAN HIT IT AGAIN...
WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT ME FOR?
I'M JUST A LOWLY ODD JOBS BOT!
WAIT!
ACTUALLY, WHEN I MADE YOU, YOU WERE THE STRONGEST ODD JOBS BOT!
SO YOU'RE SAYING...
THAT SPECIAL FEELING I HAD WHEN I WAS BORN...
I HAD A BIG APPETITE!
I'M BEGGING YOU, TAZ!
DON'T BE SCARED, YOU CAN DO IT!
WHY?!
I'LL SEE ABOUT THAT!
RAAA AAGH!

LET'S SEE WHAT WE'VE GOT
THAT WAS SO PATHETIC!
WIN!
YOU TRICKED ME
WHAT IS IT?
TAZ, OVER HERE, WHERE HELENA IS!
咔
IDIOT, PAY ATTENTION!
I'M BEING TAKEN APART! WHAT'RE YOU DOING?!
?!

SEE IF YOU CAN GET IT WORKING!
I'VE ALREADY FITTED IT FOR YOU, YOU STILL HAVE FUEL!
HELENA'S STEAM FIRST?
YEAH!
YOU WANT ME TO FIGHT THE TALOS WITH THIS?
哎呀
空
MOO!
!
ROAR!
SCREW IT! JUST RUN!
WELL UHM... GIVE ME A MINUTE...
还不行吗?!
QUESTION IS, DOES TAZ H. VE ENOUGH STEAM TO USE IT?!
BUT WITHOUT THE STEAM FIST WE CAN'T WIN!

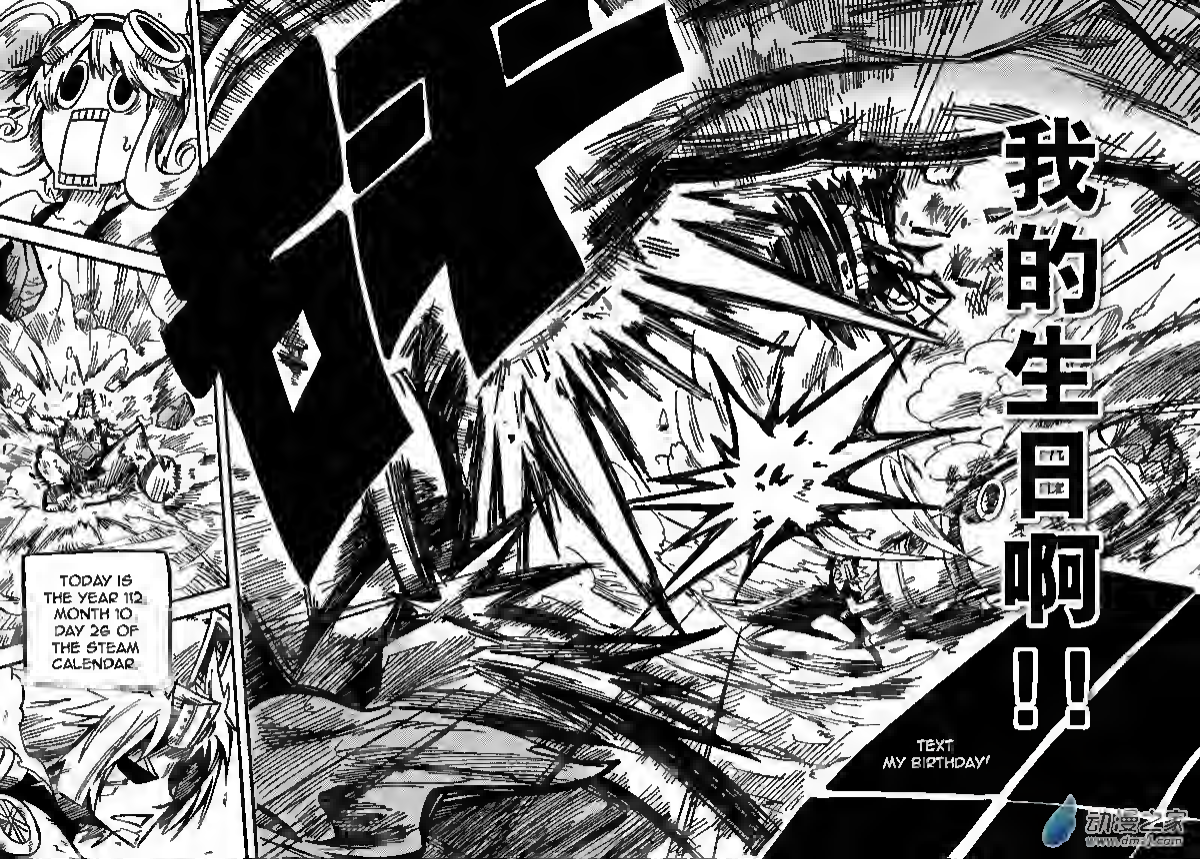
空!!
AH, SO THAT'S HOW YOU USE IT!
WAIT WAIT. HOLD ON! HOW CAN THIS BE ?!
ARE YOU REALLY TAZ?!

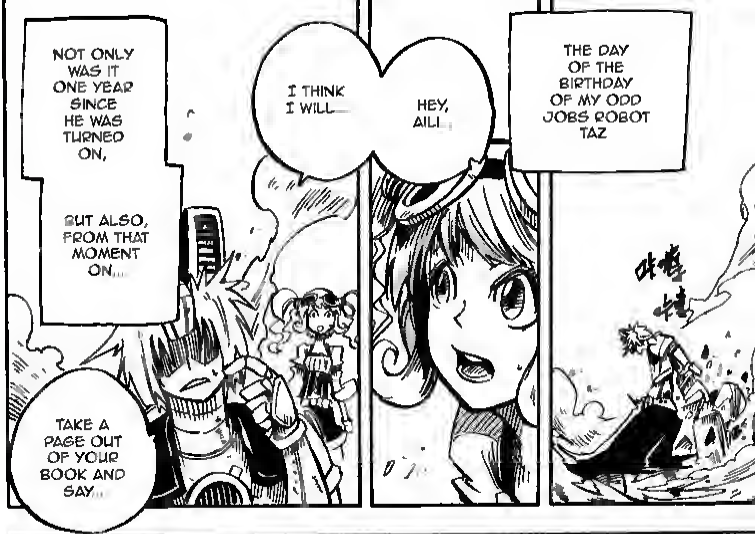
SEEING HOW BIG THIS THING IS, YOU'D THINK IT'D BE TIRING TO WIELD IT...
BUT ACTUALLY, I'M NOT WORN OUT AT ALL!
YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT TAZ...
YOU WEREN'T KIDDING!
LOOKS LIKE I REALLY AM THE STRONGEST ODD JOBS BOT!
TAZ, YOU'RE... STILL MOVING?
SEEMS LIKE IT...
BUT WHY IS IT...
AND SHUTTING DOWN IS A POSSIBILITY...
ONE ATTACK SHOULD TAKE A LOT OF STEAM,
WEIRD...
但为什么……
直接当机都是有可能的……
刚才一击消耗的蒸汽量一定不低
奇怪……
TEXT: I WONDER WHY...
THAT LOOK IS SERIOUSLY CREEPING ME OUT
为什么呢？

TCH, WHAT A THICK SKINNED MONSTER!
HOW ABOUT I...
TALOS?!
!
HIT YOU AGAIN!
MOOOO!
HE'S FAST!
WHA ...

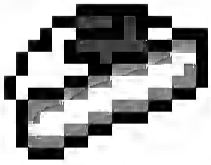
!!!
!
TAZ!
WOAH!

ahh ahh ahh...
?!
DAMNIT YOU KNOW...
HAH...
BUT TODAY...
THINGS SHOULDN'T BE LIKE THIS TODAY, RIGHT...
WHY DO I FEEL SO MUCH HUNGRIER THAN USUAL?
IT SEEMS LIKE I'VE BEEN WORKING ON AN EMPTY STOMACH UP UNTIL NOW...
ahh ahh ahh
TODAY IS CLEAR -LY...
TODAY IS OBVIOUSLY ...
ahh ahh


TODAY IS THE YEAR 112, MONTH 10, DAY 26 OF THE STEAM CALENDAR.
我的生日啊!!
TEXT
MY BIRTHDAY!


NOT ONLY WAS IT ONE YEAR SINCE HE WAS TURNED ON,
BUT ALSO, FROM THAT MOMENT ON,...
TAKE A PAGE OUT OF YOUR BOOK AND SAY...
I THINK I WILL...
HEY, AILI...
THE DAY OF THE BIRTHDAY OF MY ODD JOBS ROBOT TAZ
咔嚓

YES...
I AM THE BEST!
ME AND HIM TOGETHER, BEGAN OUR ADVENTURE TOGETHER ON THAT DAY
吹吹



Translated by Caek

Caek sagether sagether

Finally, after nearly three months of on-and-off translation, typesetting, and all manner of shenanigans...

Chapter One is complete!

Thank you for being so patient with me, and I hope you'll continue to stick with me in the future.

I also want to note that page 27, originally released as the last page of (1e) had some tranlations corrected. Might be worth a reread for those who read the partial chapters.

Again, I'd like to thank you all for reading Wu's Magical Maze and my other translations. It means a lot to me that people actually read my scanlations.

If only it were my day job...
~ Caek